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To HON. THOMAS H. KEMP,

Speaker of the House of Delegates,

Annapolis, MD.

Sir:—The undersigned, appointed by section 2nd, of Act, No. 296, passed by the General Assembly of Maryland, in March, 1862, Commissioners to disbursee the sum of fifty thousand dollars, appropriated for the relief of the families of Maryland Volunteers, having performed the duties imposed upon them, beg leave to offer to the Honorable, the General Assembly, now in session, through you, a report of their proceedings.

On the 13th of March, 1862, a few days after the 'passage of the law, the Commissioners, Benjamin Deford, George R. Dodge and Sebastian F. Streeter, as named in the Act, assembled in Baltimore, and organized by the election of Sebastian F. Streeter, as President of the Board, and the appointment of William Patten, Jr., as Secretary.

An office was obtained without charge, through the courtesy of George R. Dodge, one of the Commissioners, then acting as Provost Marshal. A circular was addressed to the various commanders of Regiments, to obtain authenticated lists of the men under their commands, with the names of those dependent upon them for support; the necessary forms of application were prepared and printed, and a system of record adopted, in the form of a Regimental Ledger, for entries of